

## **Tennessee Reentry Collaborative (TREC)**

The Tennessee Reentry Collaborative (TREC) was established in October 2004, within a few months of the Tennessee Department of Correction re-establishing the Division of Rehabilitative Services. TREC co-sponsors are Correction Commissioner George Little and Chairman Charles Traughber of the Tennessee Board of Probation and Parole.

The TREC Team Mission is *“By 2008, the Tennessee Reentry Collaborative (TREC) will provide a continuum of services for all offenders reentering society that seeks to: restore victims, communities and offenders and helps offenders to be successful in order to reduce recidivism and promote public safety”*.

TREC is chaired by its founder Jim Cosby, Assistant Commissioner of Rehabilitative Services. The state agencies that are represented include the Departments of Correction, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, Veterans Affairs, Human Services, Education, Finance and Administration, Labor and Workforce Development, Health, Safety, and Children Services, Board of Probation and Parole, and TRICOR. Community Resources that are represented include You Have the Power, Project Return, Inc., Chattanooga Endeavors, Tennessee Housing Development Agency, CADCAT, Davidson County Sheriffs Department and the Knoxville Police Department.

TREC meets monthly and has six subcommittees that meet as needed between monthly meetings. The subcommittees address housing, employment, research, mentoring, local collaborations, and children/family reunification.

The desired outcome is to enhance public safety through improving the successful transition of offenders from prison to community through a collaborative effort of state agencies, community resources and the offender.

Since October 2004, the TREC Wall of Progress has continued to grow. A few of the most significant accomplishments include:

1. The opening of two Transition Centers (one for males and one for females);
2. The development and implementation of the Transition Assessment Plan (TAP) in order to identify program and treatment needs for inmates as they enter TDOC and track their program progress completion throughout their stay;
3. Sent a multi agency team to participate in NIC offender employment specialist training;
4. TDOC MIS created a method of identifying veterans and offenders who owe child support and the information has been shared with Department of Veterans Services and Department of Human Services;
5. Developed training for mentors; and

6. Created working partnerships or collaborative efforts with the agencies represented by TREC to provide better services to offenders, their families, and the communities.